

NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE

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The Lincoln **LIBRARY**
and **MUSEUM**



THE LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE FOUNDATION, INCORPORATED

The Cover . . .

The heroic statue of "Abraham Lincoln, the Hoosier Youth" was the first successful effort to visualize the rail-splitter during his formative years in Indiana. This study in bronze, dedicated September 16, 1932, stands in the plaza of the Home Office building of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company at Fort Wayne, Indiana. A bronze tablet on the granite base of the statue bears the inscription:

Abraham Lincoln came to Indiana in 1816 when but seven years old. Upon becoming of age in 1830 he migrated to Illinois. This statue by Paul Manship portrays Abraham Lincoln as a Hoosier youth.



ONLY at long intervals of time do characters emerge who belong to the ages. When one appears unheralded, his full worth is not immediately appreciated; but gradually the spark of genius which emanates from his personality inspires all who come within its glow. Such a person of renown was Abraham Lincoln, whom the English historian H. G. Wells has named as one of the six outstanding immortals of world civilization.

Remembering that Lincoln lived in Indiana during his most impressionable years, one quarter of his whole life to be exact, one would expect to find in this state some memorial effort which might contribute to a better understanding of his growth and achievements. Such a historical project has been realized in the establishment of the Lincoln Library and Museum.

From its very inception in 1928 first under the direction of Dr. Louis A. Warren and later under Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, both outstanding Lincoln students, an exhaustive search has been made for every fragment of information that might throw more light upon the life and works of the martyred American President. The result of this intensive and far-reaching program has brought to the Lincoln Library and Museum the largest collection of organized information ever gathered about a historical character.

This brief summary of the activities of the Lincoln Library and Museum sets forth its program of work and the availability of its archives for a serious study of this figure who personifies our American civilization.



A MOST COMPREHENSIVE collection of Lincolniana has been assembled in the Library, and is accessible to students. The books, pamphlets and periodicals are arranged and classified in five different categories: Lincolniana, association books, collateral publications, magazine articles, and newspaper clippings.

LINCOLNIANA — Books and pamphlets, exclusively Lincoln, are included here. This collection of literature, numbering approximately 10,000 volumes of which 450 are in foreign languages, requires almost 600 lineal feet of bookcases to display them.

ASSOCIATION BOOKS — Books similar to those Lincoln read comprise this exhibit. The 400 books in this section constitute

an important division of the library and assist the student in orienting himself in an atmosphere contemporaneous with Lincoln's day. One of these books, "The Life of Benjamin Franklin" by W. L. Weems, Philadelphia, 1829, bears Lincoln's signature. Another book in the association collection is a presentation copy to the sixteenth president.

COLLATERAL PUBLICATIONS — Biographies of Lincoln's associates, histories of the communities where he lived, reminiscences of men who knew him, and discussions on political subjects are gathered in this compilation. About 6,000 such books and pamphlets form an invaluable source library supplementing the publications exclusively Lincoln.



PERIODICALS — More than 7,500 magazine articles on Lincoln have been separately bound. These are indexed according to subject, author and title of publication. Complete files of leading historical magazines which have featured Lincoln articles are also available. Newspapers contemporary with Lincoln's day also have been properly filed and indexed.

CLIPPINGS — Over 100,000 pages of clippings filed under more than 5,000 specific subjects relating to Lincolniana are available for reference. Seventy-six steel files are necessary to distribute and systematize this mammoth scrapbook.

THE MUSEUM

Display features of unusual Lincoln interest are to be found in the museum.

Oil paintings, original photographs, contemporary prints, broadsides, metallic subjects, personal items belonging to the President and his family, relics associated with Lincoln's assassination and death, and numerous curios are on display.

PAINTINGS — Some of America's best known artists — Pruett Carter, Dean Cornwell, J. C. Leyendecker, Frederic Mizen, Berney Lettick, Ken Riley and C. C. Beall, to name a few, have made oil paintings depicting various human-interest episodes in Lincoln's Life. Twenty-eight of these original studies have been acquired by the Museum.

ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHS — A large and valuable collection of Lincoln photographs in cabinet and carte-de-visite size are on exhibit, along with a chronological ar-



rangement of 120 Lincoln photographs made from the original negatives or contemporary photographic prints.

PRINTS — More than 6,000 different prints of Lincoln have been collected, comprising engravings, woodcuts, etchings, lithographs and pictures by modern reproductive processes. These prints are all catalogued and systematically displayed or filed.

BROADSIDES — Rare broadsides consisting of contemporary political posters, addresses, ballots and a large number of caricatures have been assembled, totaling more than 1,500.

SCULPTURE AND MEDALS — Two-hundred and thirty-five busts, statuettes, masks and plaques; and over 1,000 Lincoln medals are in the museum display.

THE ARCHIVES

The archives department is especially rich in documents relating to Lincoln's ancestry, Kentucky environments, and early Indiana history; also in original writings of Abraham Lincoln and his contemporaries.

GENEALOGY — Genealogical lists of 1,200 Hanks families and hundreds of family letters comprise the largest collection of documents ever assembled about Lincoln's maternal ancestry.

KENTUCKY RECORDS — Thousands of records copied from original entries in Kentucky courthouses are available, and 2,000 original manuscripts dating back to 1778 have been assembled.



INDIANA HISTORY — The Richard W. Thompson collection of manuscripts, comprising 575 items contemporary with Lincoln's day, gives a fine picture of political life in Indiana at that time.

AUTOGRAPH COLLECTIONS — Countless thousands of letters relating to Lincoln, are on file of which over 500 are by people who knew him. Original writings and documents of Lincoln number approximately 85 items. A collection of 224 letters addressed to Lincoln have been acquired. Letters and documents of ancestral Lincolns, the President's father, wife and children constitute a valuable part of the manuscript file.

MICROFILM STRIPS — The contents of the two largest manuscript collections in the

Library of Congress — The Lincoln Papers consisting of 18,350 documents, and the Herndon-Weik collection of records and reminiscences are valuable reference sources. Other microfilm strips of the Herndon-Lamon collection, Kentucky records, the Vincennes, Indiana newspaper *Western Sun* 1807-1828, the *Louisville Daily Journal* 1832-1843, church and genealogical records augment this modern research medium.

DUPLICATION DEPARTMENT

Urgent requests by Lincoln students that the Lincoln Library and Museum furnish them with copies of photographs and photostats, for use as illustrative material for books and magazine articles,

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called for the establishment of a duplication department. This service is of great benefit to authors, magazine editors and newspaper feature writers.

PHOTOGRAPHS—Prints are available from more than 3,000 negatives portraying nearly every phase of the Lincoln story.

PHOTOSTATS AND XEROX — Photostatic and Xerox reproductions of manuscripts, rare books and pamphlets (where copyright permits), magazine articles, newspaper clippings, broadsides and other such items in the Lincoln Library and Museum are obtainable.

THE PUBLICATIONS

The official organ of the Lincoln Library and Museum is a monthly publication en-

titled *Lincoln Lore*. Also published from time to time are books and pamphlets on Lincoln subjects.

LINCOLN LORE—The original *Lincoln Lore* was a one-page bulletin published weekly from April 15, 1929 to June 25, 1956. In July 1956 *Lincoln Lore* became a four-page illustrated folder published once a month. This publication is sent upon request to libraries, historical societies, educational institutions, news bureaus and Lincoln students. The articles are not copyrighted and are available to newspaper editors for republication.

LITERATURE — Lincoln literature of a general or a specialized nature is attainable. Such items as pamphlets, facsimiles and photographs treat popular Lincoln

topics with due emphasis to factual background.

RESEARCH

We are ever on the alert to discover new facts relating to the life, career and works of Lincoln, and greatly appreciate any authentic information about the Sixteenth President which is not generally known.

SPEAKERS

Each year the Director addresses many groups whose total membership numbers thousands. Television appearances and radio addresses reach additional thousands. A pamphlet, "Addresses on Abraham Lincoln," describes this service and may be secured upon request.

INFORMATION

The tremendous amount of data gathered about Lincoln has caused the Lincoln Library and Museum to become known as a center of Lincoln information in America. It invites Lincoln inquiries.

THE SPONSORS

A library and museum with such an ambitious program would imply the guidance of sympathetic sponsors. The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company administers a part of the work of the Foundation's Lincoln Library and Museum in appreciation of the use of the name of Lincoln in its official title and for the right to display a portrait of Lincoln as

the company insigne. This last privilege was granted on August 3, 1905 by Robert Todd Lincoln, son of Abraham Lincoln, who presented for this purpose an original photograph of President Lincoln to Arthur F. Hall, one of the founders of the company.

Representatives of the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company are interested in the Lincoln Library and Museum and contribute valuable information for its files. Company offices in more than one hundred important American cities act as distributing points for information on Abraham Lincoln published on behalf of the Foundation's Lincoln Library and Museum. Located in the Home Office

building of The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company at Fort Wayne, Indiana, the Lincoln Library and Museum may be visited on weekdays, Monday through Friday, from 8 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Visitors are always welcome.



